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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,384	04/07/2004	Joc Jumalon	P0583.14006	8460
30615	7590	09/28/2007	EXAMINER	
BIRDWELL & JANKE, LLP			FETSUGA, ROBERT M	
1100 SW SIXTH AVENUE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SUITE 1400			3751	
PORTLAND, OR 97204				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
09/28/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/820,384	JUMALON, JOE
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Robert M. Fetsuga	3751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2007.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 4-7, 9, 26-31 and 33-37 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 4-7, 9, 26-31, 33-37 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Reference numeral "21" lacks a detailed description. Appropriate correction is required.
2. Claims 4, 28 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 4 is unclear as to the relationship between the "panel" on line 1 thereof, and the "panel" on line 5 of claim 26. Claims 28 and 34 are similarly indefinite.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 4-7, 9, 26-31 and 33-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Widman.

The Widman reference discloses a sink comprising: a top surface 22 including a depression 21; a decorative panel 29,26; an apron including a front surface 23,25 having a hole 65 and a recess 34; a bolt 36; and a counter assembly 22,27, as claimed. Re claim 6, the panel may be constructed of a "different" metal (pg. 2 lns. 21-23). The initial statement of intended use (farm), and all other functional implications related thereto (kitchen), have been considered but do not appear to impose any patentably distinguishing structure over that disclosed by Widman.

Applicant argues at page 10 of the response filed August 21, 2007 the bathtub of Widman does not anticipate the claims. The examiner disagrees since the structure disclosed by applicant as comprising the sink is fully met by Widman. Applicant argues at pages 10-11 of the response the decorative panel of Widman is not spaced from "the boundaries" of the apron. The examiner disagrees since the decorative panel 29,26 in Widman is so spaced (Fig. 1).

5. Claims 6, 30 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Widman.

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The choice of material would appear an obvious choice to be made.

Applicant has not substantively argued this ground of rejection.

6. Claims 4-7, 9, 26-31 and 33-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Widman and Pisklak.

The Pisklak reference is cited to address the terms "farm" and "kitchen" recited in the claims (and argued). The decorative panel 9,10 in Pisklak is intended for use with a "farm" sink mounted in a "kitchen counter assembly" (col. 1 lns. 51-55). The structure of the "farm" sink illustrated by applicant appears closer to the structure disclosed by Widman than that of Pisklak, even though Pisklak refers to his as a "farm" sink. Pisklak is evidence that the terms "farm" and "kitchen" are merely labels which connote no definite structure. Applicant is referred to MPEP 714.02 and 608.01(o) in responding to this Office action.

7. The grounds of rejection have been reconsidered in light of applicant's arguments, but are still deemed to be proper.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this

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action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert M. Fetsuga at telephone number 571/272-4886 who can be most easily reached Monday through Thursday. The Office central fax number is 571/273-8300.



Robert M. Fetsuga
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3751